

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**Remarks**

Claims 1-9 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1-8 and added new claim 9. Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance based on the discussion which follows.

The abstract of disclosure was objected to for not being included on a separate sheet of paper, citing M.P.E.P. § 608.01(b). Contrary to this rejection, the cited M.P.E.P. section is not relevant to the present application, which is a National Stage (371) application, and, therefore, the rejection is "improper" (see M.P.E.P. § 1893.03(e)). Notwithstanding the improper rejection since the published PCT application contains an abstract on a separate page, by this Amendment, Applicants have submitted an amended abstract which conforms more closely to conventional U.S. patent abstract form.

The disclosure was objected to for including informalities, namely references to the claims. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended pages 1 and 5 by deleting references to the claims.

The drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18(a) for not including every feature of the claims, namely the weighing unit of claim 7. By this Amendment, Applicants have submitted a replacement figure sheet in which Figures 2 and 3 have been amended to schematically show the weighing unit as weighing unit 11. Subject matter basis for amending Figures 2 and 3 can be found in the specification as filed on page 2, lines 21-27 and, therefore, the replacement figure sheet does not constitute

new matter. Finally, by this Amendment, Applicants have amended the specification to include reference to the now shown weighing unit 11.

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph for allegedly not describing the weighing unit in the specification or drawings. Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the specification, page 2, lines 21-27, which generally describes the gripper hands being connected to a weighing unit. As noted above, by this Amendment, Applicants have amended the figures to schematically depict what has been previously described in text form in the specification as filed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the specification as filed does provide a written description which reasonably conveys to one of ordinary skill in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention of claim 7. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph be withdrawn.

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended the claims, thereby obviating the rejection to the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Finally, in the Office Action, it was noted that claims 1-8 would be allowable if the rejection to the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph were overcome. Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims have been amended to overcome the rejections and, therefore, are allowable, as indicated in the Office Action.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance.

**END REMARKS**